

The brieft Contents of the Bill exhibited against Logwood, and abuses in dying.

Reasons.

This Bill utterly prohibiteth, not onely the importation into this Realme of all Logwood *alias* Blockwood, Saint Martins wood, and Campecha wood, and all mixtures to dye withall, thereof or therewith made; but also the buying, selling, vsing, dying with, occupying and keeping the same: vpon paine of forfeiture of 40 pounds, whereof a third part to the King, another third to the poore of the Parish, and another third to the Informer; besides such corporall punishment as by the Statute of 39. *Eliz.* is to bee inflicted on such as vse Logwood in dying, *viz.* To bee set on the Pillory all the market time, one or more dayes, at the discretion of the Magistrate.

Penalty.

2 This Bill authoriseth all persons by warrant of the Major or head Officer of any Citie or Towne corporate, or of two Iustices of peace of the Countie, to search in all suspected places for the said woods and stuffe to die withall, and finding the same, to seize and deliuer to the said Majors, &c. who are to cause the same to be speedily burned.

3 This Bill authoriseth any person by like warrant, to search for Clothes deceitfully dyed.

4 This Bill authoriseth the Wardens of the company of Dyers in London, to make the like search in all places in London and the Liberties, and within three miles thereof.

Penalty.

5 This Bill forbiddeth all persons vsing dying in London and the Liberties, or within three miles thereof, to woad any Clothes or Stuffs of a lighter or lesser woad then the stalls or samples shalbe of, which shalbe deliuered to them by order of the Wardens & Assistants of the company of Dyers in London, on paine to forfeit fife pounds for euery peece of broad-cloth, & fiftie shillings for euery peece of other cloth or stuffe so insufficiently woaded, which forfeitures, as aforesaid, are to the King, to the Poore, and to the Informer.

Penalty.

6 This Bill appointeth the Wardens and Assistants of the company of Dyers in London, within ten dayes after Midsummer, yearly to nominate, at the least foure persons expert in dying, which shall bee Searchers for woaded colours, which Searchers are to be sworne before the Lord Major and Aldermen in London, for the due execution of their office: and the Wardens and comminalty of Dyers, for neglect of such yearly nomination to forfeit twenty pounds to the King and Informer.

7 This Bill authoriseth the said Searchers so named, and sworn to search in al places within the limits aforesaid, where dying is vsed, all clothes and stuffes woaded before they shall bee turned out of the woad into other colours, and shall seale such clothes and stuffes which they shall find well and truly woaded with scales of lead, stamped with such seuerall stamps for seuerall colours, as are prouided for that purpose by the Wardens of the companie of Dyers: and such clothes and stuffes which the Searchers shall find or suspect to bee insufficiently woaded, to bring the same to the Dyers Hall in London, there by a court of Assistants to be adiudged whether the same shalbe sufficiently woaded or not, and then to be redeliuered to the Dyer from whom the same was taken.

8 This Bill imposeth a forfeiture of 20 pounds to the King and Informer, vpon euery person which shal not suffer search to be made, according to the tenor of this Act.

9 This Bill alloweth (towards the prouision of scales and lead, and recompence of Searchers) ob. to bee taken for the sealing of euery peece of cloth and stuffe well woaded, and that for non payment thereof, the Wardens of the Company of Dyers may distraine: *The taking of which ob. cannot bee termed a Monopoly, for these reasons, viz.*

10 This Bill also imposeth a forfeiture of 20 pounds to the King and Informer, vpon euery Major, Iustice of peace, head Officer, Constable, &c. which shall bee negligent in the due execution of this Act, for so much as appertayneth to them.

1 The former Lawes extend not to the prohibition of the importation, and Logwood being licenced to be imported, Dyers will secretly get and vse the same, which cannot bee preuented, vnlesse the importation be utterly prohibited.

2 These woods are all of one or like deceitfull nature and qualitie, yet of different names, deuised to defeat the Lawes, which extend only to Logwood *alias* Blockwood.

3 Notwithstanding all the Art and cunning that can be vsed in the mixture of these woods, yet the colours therewithall dyed, are very false and deceitfull.

4 By the prohibition of the importation of these woods, his Maiesties Customes will exceedingly increase: for by the booke of Rates no Custome is paid for Logwood (the King not tollering the importation) and euery Tunne of these woods spent in dying, saue the spending of ten Tunnes of woad, or the value of so much in Indico, for which Custome is paid, so that it is manifest, that by the licence granted for importation of fiftie Tunne of Logwood yearly (if vnder colour thereof no more be brought in, as it is to be doubted the contrary) yet the King loseth yearly the benefit of the Custome of 500. Tunnes of woad, or of the value thereof in Indico.

5 By the vse of these woods the Subiect is deceiued, the art of dying both at home and abroad much scandalized, and the ancient Trade of clothing in this Realme greatly decayed.

1 Vnlesse they bee so authorized, they cannot finde where the same woods shall be hidden.

2 Vnlesse the woods may be speedily burned, the keeping of them may proue very hurtfull.

Which being found, the punishment for the same is prouided by former Statutes.

Otherwise many Dyers in those places, not free of the Company of Dyers, will not permit such search to be made.

The Free-men of the Company of Dyers in London, are by their Ordinances strictly bound to obserue this good order; but many persons in those places vsing dying, some free of other companies, and some strangers, not being bound to performe this order, doe daily commit many notable deceits to the abuse of the Subiect, and scandall of the Art or mysterie of Dying.



This Company best knowing who are most expert in that Art, are fittest to haue the nomination of the said Searchers.

1 By sight of the clothes and stuffes in the woad, expert persons may the better discern whether they are sufficiently woaded for the colours appointed for them, or not.

2 The like scale is appointed by diuers Statutes for diuers things, to the end that the Subiect might not be deceiued.

3 The Free-men of the Companie of Dyers vsing dying, haue many yeares past obserued this good order, which for preuention of deceit is also necessarie to bee done by all others vsing dying, though not free of their Companie.

4 Sometimes the deceit may bee so much shadowed by Art that the Searchers may bee doubtfull thereof, in which cases the triall thereof cannot more easily be made then by a court of Assistants of that Companie.

Diuers pretexts there are of the like, as 3. *Ed. 6. c. 2. & 4. & 5. Ph. & M. cap. 5.*

1 The same is taken of the Dyer only, who therefore doth not in any wise enhance his prices of dying, and therefore not preiudiciall to the common-wealth in generall.

2 It is doubtful whether a ob. vpon the peece wil defray the charge for lead, scales, & searchers.

3 If the profit should surmount the charge, yet the ouerplus being referred to the Company of Dyers, is there to lye in stocke for the discharge of all extraordinarie payments and taxations, which otherwise are to be leuyed vpon euery particular person by the Pole, which stocke being so maintayned, euery member of that Company is partaker of the benefit thereof, and therefore not to be thought vnnecessarie to be paid.

4 Presidents there are diuers of receipts vpon sealing, as by Statute of 5. *Ed. 6. c. 6.* for sealing of cloth well dressed &c. 35. *Eliz. cap. 10.* for searching and marking of Carries, 1. *Ja. cap. 22.* for sealing of leather, &c.

This is not vnnecessarie, because the life of the Law is in the execution thereof.

All former Lawes not repealed, made for preuention of deceits in dying and against vsing of Logwood, for so much as are not repugnant to this Act, to stand in force, this Act notwithstanding.